

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00697 140922Z

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 FEA-02 RSC-01 DRC-01

(ISO) W

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R 131315Z MAY 74

FM USINT DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 523

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0697

NEA FOR DEFORD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SY

SUBJ: TRADE INQUIRY: PETROLEUM EXPLORATION

1. USINT HAS RECEIVED COMMERCIAL CABLE FROM DON K. HENDERSON, TREND MINERALS CORP, SUBSIDIARY OF TREND EXPLORATION, LTD., DENVER, COLORADO (PHONE: 303/892-7055). CABLE INFORMS US THEY PLAN HAVE REPRESENTATIVE IN JORDAN LATE MAY/EARLY JUNE TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF EXPLORING FOR PETROLEUM. THEY ASK US ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR WORK IN SYRIA.

2. PER THEIR REQUEST, PLEASE PHONE TO EXPLAIN CURRENT SITUATION OF BOTH USINT AND USG IN SYRIA. TELL THEM THAT UNFORTUNATELY WE BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE PRODUCTIVE FOR USG TO APPROACH SARG ON THEIR BEHALF AT THIS JUNCTURE. ADD, HOWEVER, THAT RECENTLY SARG HAS ASKED SEVERAL WESTERN FIRMS, INCLUDING US FIRM TO SUBMIT OFFERS ON SERVICE-TYPE EXPLORATION CONTRACTS. THIS INDICATES TO US THAT SARG WOULD BE INTERESTED IN OFFERS FROM AMERICAN FIRMS IN PETROLEUM AREA. BEYOND JUST OIL, GROWING NUMBER AMERICAN FIRMS WITH CONTRACTS IN SYRIA SEEMS TO US EVIDENCE THAT SYRIANS DESIRE US BUSINESS IN SYRIA. IN SHORT, IF REPRESENTATIVE PLANS BE IN AREA,

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WOULD SUGGEST HE CONSIDER VISITING DAMASCUS AND WE

WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO ASSIST.
SCOTES

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NNN

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